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# SPRING TURKEY

**1993** HUNTING REGULATIONS
STATE OF MONTANA

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

JUN 17 1993

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## General Regulations

These regulations apply to all legally described Spring Turkey Gobbler Hunting Districts and areas.

**Spring Season** — April 10 - May 9, 1993.

**Licenses** — The following licenses are available at all Fish, Wildlife and Parks offices and most license agents throughout the state.

| | Res. | Nonres. |
|---|---|---|
| Spring Season Turkey License | $4.00 | $13.00 |
| Conservation License (required prerequisite*) | $4.00 | $ 5.00 |
| Upland Game Bird License (required prerequisite*) | $6.00 | $55.00 |

* The resident Sportsman's License, the nonresident Big Game Combination License or the nonresident Deer Combination License serves as the prerequisite license for both the conservation license and the upland game bird license.

Landowner Sponsored Deer Combination License holders may hunt upland game birds only on the landowner sponsor's property. This does not include leased or public land.

Montana residents 12-14 years of age, 62 years of age and older or holder's of a Disabled Resident Conservation License, need only the conservation license and a valid turkey license to hunt turkey. Persons under 12 years of age may not hunt turkey.

**Limit** — One wild, male turkey per spring season. Turkey license must be stamped "SPRING".

**Avoid Violations of the Law** — It is illegal to shoot any game bird on, from, or across any public highway, or the shoulder, berm, or borrow-pit, or right-of-way of any public highway, and/or motor driven conveyance.

**Checking Stations** — All sportspersons are required to stop as directed at all designated check stations on their way to and from hunting and fishing areas, even if they have no game or fish to be checked.

**Evidence of Sex (Required Spring Season Only)** — No person shall transport within the state any turkey taken during the spring turkey gobbler season unless a leg and foot are left naturally attached for evidence of sex. The leg and foot shall remain attached at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the personal residence of the processor or a processing facility.

1. Field dressed gobblers being transported from the place they were taken to a permanent residence or processing facility must have one complete leg and foot naturally attached.
2. Processing facility means a site removed from the field that has permanent facilities for the final preparation of the bird prior to consumption, i.e. commercial locker, ranch or permanent camp.

## General Regulations — *Continued*

**Hunter Education** — both resident and nonresident youths 12-17 years of age must provide a Certificate of Competency in the safe handling of firearms before they may purchase a hunting license.

**Hunting Hours** — One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

**Indian Reservations** — sportspersons hunting on Indian reservations should check Indian reservation regulations because season dates and bag limits may differ from state regulations.

**Landowner Permission** — Sportspersons are reminded that landowner permission is required to hunt on posted land. You are encouraged to "Ask First" to hunt on land not posted.

**Means of Taking** — Wild turkey may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge; long, recurve or compound bow and arrow; and rifle, or handgun, except in Flathead, Sanders, Lake, Granite, Mineral, Missoula, Powell and Ravalli counties, where only shotguns or long, recurve or compound bow and arrow may be used.

The following methods or devices are prohibited in taking game birds and animals:

1) The use of any chemical or explosive device attached to an arrow to aid in the taking of wildlife is prohibited.
2) The use of any artificial light or any electronic device attached to any bow or arrow that aids in the taking or locating of any game animal or game bird is prohibited.

**Restriction** — Baiting prohibited. "Baiting" shall mean the placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of corn, wheat, or other grain so as to constitute a lure or attraction. Nothing shall prohibit the taking of birds in or over standing crops or harvested cropland or grains scattered as a result of agricultural harvesting.

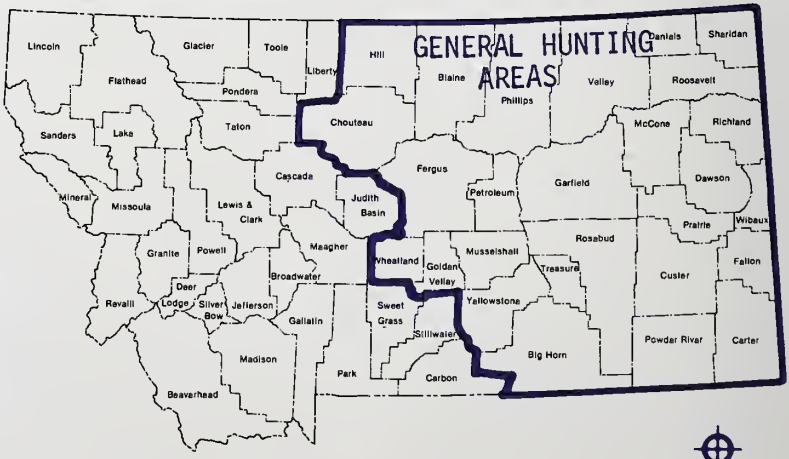
**Tagging** — Immediately after harvesting the wild turkey, cut out the proper month and day from the license and affix to the turkey so it remains secure and visible at all times.

**Wanton Waste** — It is illegal to waste any part of any game animal, game bird, or game fish suitable for food. Following are game bird parts "suitable for food":
All turkeys, the breasts, thighs and wings must be retained.

## Spring Turkey—General Hunting Areas

The areas listed below are open to all sportspersons who hold a valid 1993 Spring Turkey License. Special permits are not required in the areas listed below.

**Hill, Chouteau, Fergus, Wheatland, Golden Valley, Yellowstone and Bighorn counties and all counties lying east of these.**



## Spring Turkey—Special Permit Hunting Areas

Listed below are areas where limited numbers of spring turkey gobbler permits are being made available to sportspersons through a drawing. Applicants may apply for a special spring turkey gobbler permit **in only one area of the state.** All permit quotas listed are tentative and will be finalized at the March Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission Meeting.

Successful applicants are authorized to use their special spring turkey gobbler permit, in conjunction with their spring turkey license, to hunt special permit areas.

The special spring turkey gobbler permit allows the sportsperson to hunt in the described area and during the time specified on the permit.

Applications must be postmarked by March 15, 1993, to be eligible for the drawing. Successful applicants will be notified by mail and will be required to purchase a valid spring season turkey license before hunting.

**Sanders, Flathead and Lake Counties:**

A total of 165 special spring turkey gobbler permits will be issued.

Applicants must submit in writing their name, address, 1993 conservation license number and $3 nonrefundable drawing fee to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, 490 North Meridian Road, Kalispell, Montana 59901.

Permits valid in Flathead, Lake and Sanders Counties except Deer-Elk hunting district 122 and 124 in their entirety. See legal description below:

Those portions of Flathead, Lincoln and Sanders Counties lying within the following described boundary: Beginning where the Thompson River County Road meets U.S. Highway 2, then southerly along said road to the Shroder Creek Road and U.S. Forest Service Trail 137, then easterly along said road and trail to Trail 132, then southeasterly to Trail 290, then along said trail to the Flathead Indian Reservation Boundary, then southerly along said boundary to the Sanders County line, then westerly along said county line to the Clark Fork-Ninemile Divide, then westerly along said divide to U.S. Forest Service Trail 242, then northerly along said trail to the Clark Fork River, then southwesterly up the Clark Fork River to Forest Service Trail 1714, then northerly along said trail to Forest Service Road 7592, then north and westerly along said road to Forest Service Trail 404, then westerly along said trail through Combest Peak to the Sanders-Mineral County line, then westerly along said line to Greenwood Hill and the junction of Forest Service Trail 398, then northerly on said trail to Penrose Peak, then northerly from said peak along the Penrose-Cherry Peak divide to the junction of Forest Service Trail 1130, then northerly along said trail to Eddy Mountain, then northerly from said mountain along the Outlaw Lake Trail to Outlaw Creek, then northerly down said creek to the Clark Fork River and State Route 200, then northwesterly along said route to the Thompson River Bridge, then northeasterly up the Thompson River to the West Fork of the Thompson River, then up the West Fork to Four Lakes Creek, then westerly up said creek to the North Fork of Four Lakes Creek, then northwesterly up the North Fork to Forest Service Road 7671 and Trail 437, then westerly up said trail to Trail 450, then northerly on said trail to Mt. Headley, then northerly along the divide between Graves Creek and West Fork of Fishtrap Creek to the Vermilion River Divide, then northerly along the Vermilion-Thompson River Divide to Forest Service Road 7593, then easterly along said road to Forest Service Road 7562, then northerly and easterly along said road to Forest Service Road 4422, the Elk Creek Road, then northerly along said road to U.S. Highway 2, then easterly along said highway to the Thompson River County Road, the point of beginning.

**ASK FIRST!!**
***to Hunt & Fish on* Private Land**

## Spring Turkey—Special Permit Hunting Areas—*Continued*

**Granite, Mineral, Missoula, Powell and Ravalli Counties:**

A total of 40 special spring turkey gobbler permits will be issued.

Applicants must submit in writing their name, address, 1993 conservation license number and $3 nonrefundable drawing fee to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Turkey Drawing, 3201 Spurgin Road, Missoula, Montana 59801.

**Toole and Pondera Counties:**

A total of 10 special spring turkey gobbler permits will be issued.

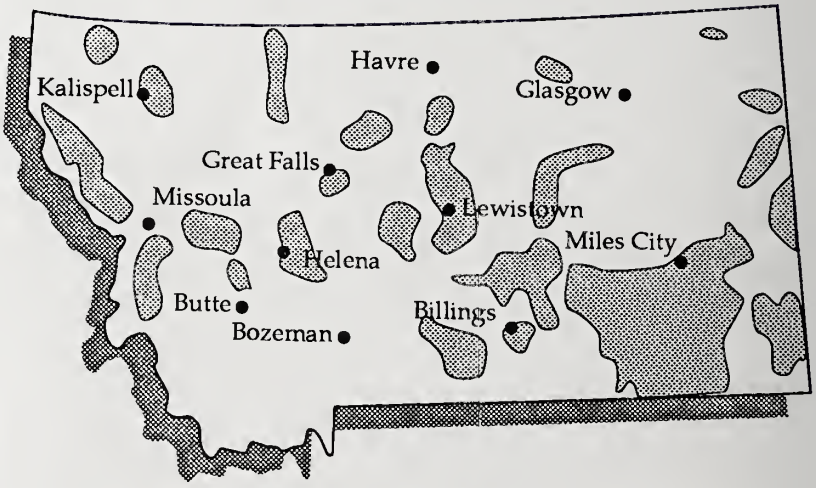
Applicants must submit in writing their name, address, 1993 conservation license number and $3 nonrefundable drawing fee to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Turkey Drawing, P.O. Box 6610, Great Falls, Montana 59406.

**Stillwater, Carbon and Sweet Grass Counties:**

A total of 200 special spring turkey gobbler permits will be issued.

Applicants must submit in writing their name, address, 1993 conservation license number and $3 nonrefundable drawing fee to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Turkey Drawing, 2300 Lake Elmo Drive, Billings, Montana 59105.

### DISTRIBUTION OF THE MERRIAM'S TURKEY IN MONTANA




*From Giddings, B. 1991. "Merriam's on the Move." MONTANA OUTDOORS 23 (2):2-8.

By order of the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission, the seasons, limits and regulations listed herein shall govern the 1993 Spring Turkey Gobbler Hunting Season. These regulations are valid March 1, 1993, through February 28, 1994, and were adopted by the Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission on February 7, 1992; K. L. Cool, Secretary